



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Father Sentenced to Five-Year Prison Term

For First-Degree Cruelty to Children

-Defendant Punched Son in the Eye and Nose, Causing Fractures to Orbital Bone-

WASHINGTON - A 61-year-old District of Columbia man was sentenced today to a five-year prison term following his earlier conviction on a charge of first-degree cruelty to children for striking and injuring his teenage son, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

The defendant, who is not identified here to protect the privacy of the victim, was convicted on June 24, 2011 by a jury in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Honorable Florence Y. Pan sentenced him today. Upon completion of his prison term, the defendant will be placed on three years of supervised release.

According to the government's evidence, on August 17, 2010, at approximately 2 p.m., the defendant argued with his 14-year-old son at the family home in Southwest Washington about which high school the teenager should attend. While his son was on the phone discussing the matter with his grandmother, the defendant approached him and hit him in the left eye, nose, and on the back of the head. The youth fell to the floor and, as he leaned against a chair bleeding, the defendant stomped twice on his back. The defendant's son suffered two fractures to the orbital bone around his left eye as a result of the defendant's abuse.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen commended Detectives Scott Dowling and Stephanie Garner, and Officers Fred Brown, Kemper Agee, and Tracy Resper, all of the Metropolitan Police Department, who were involved in the investigation and prosecution of this case. He also expressed his appreciation to Paralegal Lamine Hendrix and Legal Assistant Charmonique Price, who prepared the case for indictment and trial, and Domestic Violence Advocate Christina Principe, who worked with the victim throughout the case. Finally, he praised the work of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Mona Sahaf and Elizabeth Gabriel, who indicted and prosecuted the case.

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